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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re application of:

Masami MURAI

Appl. No. 10/004,816

Filed: December 7, 2001

For: **Method for Manufacturing
Ferroelectric Thin Film Device,
Ink Jet Recording Head, and Ink
Jet Printer**

Confirmation No. N/A

Art Unit: To Be Assigned

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Atty. Docket: 1089.0310001/DKSC/ALF

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application

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does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the date of filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA), OR within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits OR before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No statement or fee is required.
- 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, or Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.
 - a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
 - b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
 - c. Attached is our Check No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

- 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Enclosed find our Check No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p); in addition:
 - a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
 - b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- 4. Document Nos. AN2, AO2, AP2, AO3 and AP3 were cited in search reports by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the European search reports dated October 6, 2000 and December 8, 2000 that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office was provided in Application No. 09/418,309 (which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120) in satisfaction of the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance. 1138 OG 37, 38.
- 5. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document AR1 was provided in Application No. 09/418,309. A concise explanation of the relevance of non-English documents AL1, AM1, AN1, AO1 and AP1, appear in the specification as filed.
- 6. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in an IDS that complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)-(c) in Application No. 09/418,309, filed October 14, 1999, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35

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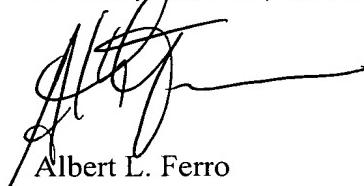
U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R.
§ 1.98(d).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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Date: March 20, 2002

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